Codium fragile ssp tomentosoides

Dead man's fingers, Green fleece, Green sea fingers, Oyster thief

Threat scores

1. Ecological impact
   - Nutrient depletion; causes decrease in biodiversity; aquaculture fouling
   - Recorded as preventing the re-establishment of native algal species in New Zealand but cannot competitively exclude them
   - In Australia it is reported to settle on native algae and shellfish and to foul commercial fishing nets.
   - This causes economic hardships to commercial business.
   - In some areas large wracks of the algae accumulate and rot on beaches after storms
2. Invasive potential
   - Water currents can and will carry this species over long distances introducing it to new locations
   - Drift of mature, detached plants or fragments of plants is likely to be the main method of expansion for established populations
   - The introduced form is parthenogenic with the alga releasing motile female gametes "swarmers" that can germinate in the water column without fertilization
3. Geographical Extent
   - Regionally pervasive
4. Management Difficulty
   - Several management options listed
   - Eradication is not very successful, prevention is best management

Geography and Habitat

1. Native: Asian Pacific region - Japan, Korea, China
2. Introduced: Atlantic Coast from Maine to the Carolinas, Alaska, California
3. Habitats
   - Marine, estuaries, bays, intertidal zones, coastland, fouling communities
   - Grows profusely on any hard substrate
   - Tolerates large variations in salinity and temperature

Invasion Pathways

1. Stocking in open water
2. Hull/Surface fouling
3. Natural spread

Non native locations

1. 40- Gulf of Maine, Bay of Fundy
2. 41- Virginian
3. 42- Carolinian
4. 55- N. American Pacific Fijordland
5. 58- Northern California
6. 59- Southern California Bight

Sources

1. http://www.invasivespecies.net/database/species/ecology.asp?si=796&fr=1&sts=
2. Molnar, Jennifer, et al. 2008. "Assessing the global threat of invasive species to marine biodiversity." *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment.* 6 (9), pp. 485-492.
3. http://conserveonline.org/workspaces/global.invasive.assessment